

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 03302 242310Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 SSM-03
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-----242315 034157 /63

R 241443Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2090

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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ETMO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRGDC PFOR, EG, US, IS, US, XE

SUBJECT: VISIT TO ABU RUDEISK

1. AT INVITATION COMPAGNIE ORIENTAL DES PETROLE D'EGYPT,
EMBOFF RECENTLY VISITED ABU RUDEIS BELAYIM OIL FIELD
COMPLEX. DETAILED TRIP REPORT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.
FOLLOWING ARE SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS WHICH MAY BE OF
MORE IMMEDIATE INTEREST.

A. THERE ARE CURRENTLY ABOUT 1000 EGYPTIANS WORKING IN
OIL FIELDS AT ABU RUDEIS/BELAYIM. ABOUT 200 SINAI
POLICE FORCE MEMBERS LIVE IN ABU RUDEIS IN ADDITION
TO THE UN CAMP WHICH NUMBERS ABOUT 250.

B. EGYPTIAN MILITARY MAINTAINS LIAISON OFFICE OF FIVE
OFFICERS AND SOME ENLISTED DRIVERS AND GUARDS IN ABU
RUDEIS TO HANDLE LIAISON BETWEEN SINAI POLICE FORCE
AND UN.

C. ACCORDING TO AFLOSS COMMANDER UN DOES NOT PERMIT
UNATTACHED CIVILIANS IN ABU RUDEIS BECAUSE OF APPARENT
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 03302 242310Z

STRICT INTERPRETATION OF APRAGRAPH THREE (B) OF ANNEX
TO EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI AGREEMENT (SEPTEMBER, 1975) WHICH
DEALS WITH CIVILIAN PRESENCE IN AREA SOUTH OF LINE E
AND WEST OF LINE M. IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF THIS UN OR
ISRAELI INTERPRETATION.

D. CURRENT PRODUCTION OF ABU RUDEIS/BELAYIM (ON SHORE

AND OFF SHORE) FIELDS IS AVERGING A LITTLE OVER
11,000 CUBIC METERS PER DAY OR CLOSE TO 70,000 BPD
(CONVERTING AT 6.28 BARRELS PER CUBIC METER).
ACCORDING TO RECORDS LEFT BY ISRAELIS, THIS IS CLOSE TO
OUTPUT AT TIME OF TURNOVER IN NOVEMBER 1975.

E. OF THE SOME 140 WELLS IN BELAYIM (ABOUT 120
ONSHORE AND ABOUT 20 IN MARINE COMPLEX) ABOUT 80
ONSHORE AND 9 MARINE WELLS ARE CURRENTLY PUMPING.
MAJOR PROBLEM IS LACK OF SPARE PARTS FOR OVERHAUL OF
EXISTING MACHINERY. EGYPTIANS FEEL ISRAELIS REMOVED
ALMOST ALL SPARE PARTS, AND THERE IS EVIDENCE TO
SUPPORT THIS CLAIM.

F. IN 1976, MAJOR OPERATIONAL PROBLEM WAS SHUTDOWNS
IN MARINE WELLS BECAUSE OF POOR CONDITION OF THE
MARINE PIPELINE WHICH TIES FIELD TO LOADING FACILITY
AT FEIRAN. PIPELINE NEEDS COMPLETE REPLACEMENT.

G. ACCORDING TO LOADING CHARTS FOR 1976, ONLY
CONSISTENT CUSTOMERS FOR ABU RUDEIS/BELAYIM CRUDE WERE
GREECE, INDIA, AND THE ALEXANDRIA AREA REFINERIES.

H. DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING
SHARING OF 14 KILOMETER STRETCH OF ROAD BETWEEN ABU
RUDEIS AND BELAYIM POSE SOME DIFFICULTIES FOR OIL
FIELD TECHNICIANS, BUT OPERATIONS ARE GENERALLY
PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY.

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 03302 242310Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO03302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770064-1139
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770214/aaaaamow.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0473c1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3244876
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO ABU RUDEISK
TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, EG, IS, US, XE, COMPAGNIE ORIENTAL DES PETROLE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0473c1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009